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JC14 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 JUL 2005

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Docket No.  
126688/0139IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Theodore T. Tarone, et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.: PCT/US2004/002723

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: 30 January 2004

For: ARTICULATED SUPPORT ASSEMBLY

Date: July 22, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**Mail Stop PCT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A and/or B, PTO-1449, or equivalent).

The following checked sections apply to this Information Disclosure Statement:

- ☒ In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii) as revised at 69 Fed. Reg. 56481 (September 21, 2004), copies of the cited U.S. patent application publication(s) and/or U.S. patent(s) have not been submitted.
- ☒ The cited reference(s) were called to Applicant's attention in a counterpart foreign patent application. A copy of the official communication in that counterpart foreign patent application citing the reference(s) is submitted herewith, and the Examiner is respectfully directed thereto for a concise explanation of the relevance of the cited art.
- ☐ At least some of the cited references are not (or the cited reference is not) in English, and so English abstracts of those references (that reference) are provided, if available.
- ☐ At least some of the cited references are not (or the cited reference is not) in English, and so machine English translations of those references (that reference) are provided, where available.
- ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under Sec. 1.53(d), (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in Sec. 1.491 in an international application, (3) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a Request

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for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Accordingly, neither a fee nor Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and so is accompanied by one of:

(1) A Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), which follows; or

(2) The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), authorization for which follows.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:

(1) A Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), which follows; and

(2) The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), authorization for which follows.

☐ Fee Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p)

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) (\$180) to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

☐ Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or

No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in Sec. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

☒ Additional Comments

Applicant(s) have the following additional comments:

**The cited references include the art cited in the International Search Report for application PCT/2004/002723, of which this application is the national stage.**

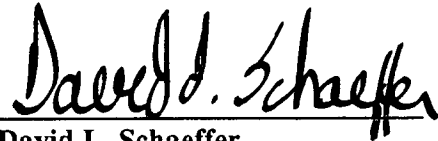
U.S. Patent Appln. No. PCT/US2005/02723  
Information Disclosure Statement  
Filed July 22, 2005

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A and/or B, PTO-1449, or equivalent) be returned to the undersigned indicating that such information has been considered.

Other than any fees mentioned above, no fees are believed to be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which are deemed to be now or hereafter due in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicant'(s) attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



**David L. Schaeffer**  
Reg. No. 32,716  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, LLP  
180 Maiden Lane  
New York, New York 10038  
(212) 806-5400

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PTO/SB/03a (08-03)

Approved for use 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **1** of **2****Complete if Known**

Application Number	<b>Not Yet Assigned</b>
Filing Date	<b>Concurrently Herewith (7/22/05)</b>
First Named Inventor	<b>Theodore Tarone</b>
Art Unit	<b>Not Yet Assigned</b>
Examiner Name	<b>Not Yet Assigned</b>
Attorney Docket Number	<b>126688/0139</b>

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- <b>5,961,527-A</b>	<b>10-05-1999</b>	<b>Whitmore, III, et al.</b>	
		US- <b>6,179,262-B1</b>	<b>01-30-2001</b>	<b>Ellard, et al.</b>	
		US- <b>6,540,188-B2</b>	<b>04-01-2003</b>	<b>Jenkins, et al.</b>	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner  
Signature

/Gwendolyn Baxter/

Date

Considered

06/07/2008

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	2	of	2
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**Complete if Known**

<i>Application Number</i>	<b>Not Yet Assigned</b>
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<i>Filing Date</i>	<b>Concurrently Herewith (7/22/05)</b>
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First Named Inventor	Theodore Tarone
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<i>Art Unit</i>	<b>Not Yet Assigned</b>
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Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
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Attorney Docket Number	126688/0139
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## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner  
Initials\*Cite  
No.<sup>1</sup>

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

 $T^2$ 

**International Search Report in appln. no. PCT/US2004/02723, dated January 4, 2005**

**Examiner  
Signature**

/Gwendolyn Baxter/

Date  
Considered

06/07/2008

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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